



Jan. 6 panel subpoenas Trump, demanding historic testimony



Former President Donald Trump pauses while speaking at a rally at the Minden Tahoe Airport in Minden, Nev., on Oct. 8, 2022.

Associated Press

Norwegian Prima arrives in Aruba for the first time



ENTERTAINMENT SCHEDULE			
MONDAY Angela Flores Violinist 6:30pm-8:30pm	TUESDAY Jean Paul Saxophonist 6:30pm-8:30pm	WEDNESDAY Eddie Kroon Singer 6:30pm-8:30pm	THURSDAY Marrybell Maduro Singer 6:30pm-8:30pm
FRIDAY Ricky Thomas Guitarist 7:00pm-9:00pm	SATURDAY Angela Flores Violinist 6:30pm-8:30pm	KARAOKE Happy Hour 9:00pm-11:00pm	SUNDAY Marrybell Maduro Singer 6:30pm-8:30pm

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Jan. 6 panel subpoenas Trump, demanding historic testimony

By FARNOUSH AMIRI and MARY CLARE JALONICK

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The House committee investigating the Jan. 6 attack on the U.S. Capitol formally issued an extraordinary subpoena to Donald Trump on Friday, demanding testimony from the former president who lawmakers say "personally orchestrated" a multi-part effort to overturn the results of the 2020 election.

The nine-member panel issued a letter to Trump's lawyers saying he must testify, either at the Capitol or by videoconference, "beginning on or about" Nov. 14 and continuing for multiple days if necessary.

The letter also outlined a sweeping request for documents, including personal communications between Trump and members of Congress as well as extremist groups. Those are to be turned in by Nov. 4, although the committee's deadlines are generally subject to negotiation.

"We recognize that a subpoena to a former president is a significant and historic action," Chairman Bennie Thompson and Vice Chair Liz Cheney wrote in the letter to Trump. "We do not take this action lightly." The panel rooted its action in history, listing past presidents from John Quincy Adams to Gerald Ford, who testified before Congress after leaving office — and noted that even sitting presidents have responded to congressional subpoenas. It is unclear how Trump and his legal team will respond. He could comply or negotiate with the committee, announce he will defy the subpoena or ignore it altogether. He could also go to court and try to stop it. David A. Warrington, a partner with the Dhillon Law Group, said the firm would be handling the issue for Trump, and he said in a statement: "We understand that, once again, flouting norms and appropriate and customary process, the Committee has publicly released a copy of its subpoena. As with



Steve Bannon, center, a longtime ally of former President Donald Trump and convicted of contempt of Congress, accompanied by his attorneys David Schoen, left, and Evan Corcoran, right, speaks to the media as he leaves the federal courthouse on Friday, Oct. 21, 2022, in Washington.

Associated Press

any similar matter, we will review and analyze it, and will respond as appropriate to this unprecedented action."

The subpoena is the latest and most striking escalation in the House committee's 15-month investigation of the deadly Jan. 6, 2021, insurrection, bringing members of the panel into direct conflict with the man they have investigated from afar through the testimony of aides, allies and associates.

In the subpoena letter, the committee wrote about the "overwhelming evidence" it has assembled, showing Trump "personally orchestrated" an effort to overturn his defeat in the 2020 election, including by spreading false allegations of widespread voter fraud, "attempting to corrupt" the Justice Department and pressuring state officials, members of Congress and his own vice president to change the results.

"In short, you were at the center of the first and only effort by any U.S. President to overturn an election and obstruct the peaceful transition of power, ultimately culminating in a bloody attack on our own Capitol and on the Congress itself," Thompson and Cheney said.

Lawmakers say key details

about what Trump was doing and saying during the siege remain unknown. According to the committee, the only person who can fill the gaps is Trump himself. The panel — comprised of seven Democrats and two Republicans — approved the subpoena for Trump in a surprise vote last week. Every member voted in support.

The day after, Trump posted a lengthy memo on Truth Social, his social media website, repeating his false claims of widespread election fraud and expressing his "anger, disappointment and complaint" that the committee wasn't investigating his objections. He made no mention of the subpoena.

The subpoena calls for testimony about Trump's dealings with several former aides and associates who have asserted their Fifth Amendment rights against self-incrimination to the committee, including Roger Stone, Michael Flynn, John Eastman, Jeffrey Clark and Kelli Ward.

"These Fifth Amendment assertions — made by persons with whom you interacted — related directly to you and your conduct," the subpoena letter reads. "They provide specific examples where your truthful testimony under oath with

be important."

The committee also made 19 requests for documents and communication — including for any messages Trump sent on the encrypted messaging app Signal "or any other means" to members of Congress and others about the stunning events of the Capitol attack.

The scope of the committee's request is expansive — pursuing documents from Sept. 1, 2020, two months before the election, to the present on the president's communications with the groups like the Oath Keepers, Proud Boys — as the panel looks to compile a historical record of the run-up to the Capitol attack and then the aftermath.

But there remains little legal advantage for Trump to cooperate with the committee as he already faces other civil and criminal legal battles in various jurisdictions, including over his family business in New York and the handling of presidential records at his Mar-a-Lago estate in Florida.

It's possible his lawyers could simply run out the clock on the subpoena if they go to court to try to quash it, since the committee goes out of existence at the end of this Congress. Peter Keisler, who served as acting attorney general

under President George W. Bush, wrote in an email responding to a query from the AP: "It seems improbable to me that this could be litigated to conclusion in the time remaining to the Committee in this Congress."

If Trump refuses to comply with the subpoena, the panel will have to weigh the practical and political implications of holding him in contempt of Congress.

"That's a bridge we cross if we have to get there," Rep. Adam Kinzinger, a Republican member of the committee, told ABC on Sunday. "He's made it clear he has nothing to hide, is what he says. So, he should come in."

If the full House voted to recommend a contempt charge against Trump, the Justice Department would then review the case and decide on any further step. Other witnesses have faced legal consequences for defying the committee, including close Trump ally Steve Bannon, who was convicted of contempt in July and was sentenced Friday to four months behind bars. But holding a former president in contempt would be another matter.

The subpoena to Trump comes as the committee is looking to wrap up its investigative work and compile a final, comprehensive report that will be published by the end of the year. Investigators have interviewed more than 1,000 witnesses, including many of Trump's top White House aides, and obtained tens of thousands of pages of documents since the committee was formed in July 2021. But the panel is authorized only through this Congress, which ends on Jan. 3. That means members have only a few short months — amid a hectic lame-duck legislative period after the midterm elections — to refine their historical record of the worst attack on the Capitol in two centuries. Whether that will include the testimony from the 45th president of the United States remains to be seen. □

Ruling could mean trials against Big Oil over state wetlands

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Federal judges have ordered a 9-year-old lawsuit against oil and gas companies over damage to Louisiana's wetlands to be returned to state court for trial, potentially clearing the way for at least 41 similar lawsuits to move forward.

A three-judge panel of the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals on Monday upheld a January decision by the late U.S. District Judge Martin L.C. Feldman of New Orleans, The Times-Picayune/The New Orleans Advocate reported.

The ruling returns the suit filed by Plaquemines Parish against Chevron USA, Exxon Mobil Corp., ConocoPhillips Co., BP America and Shell to state court in Plaquemines Parish, the newspaper said.

Feldman correctly found that just because oil and gas exploration and production operations during World War II were conducted on behalf of the war effort, the companies were not acting under the orders of federal agents in a way that required the suit to be heard in federal court, the panel ruled.

"Today's decision will make the history books," John Carmouche, an attorney



Brown pelicans are shown perching in mangrove bushes damaged by oil on Queen Bess Island in Louisiana's Barataria Bay, June 21, 2010.

representing the parish and the state, told the newspaper. "Finally, Louisiana can be made whole for everything it has given to our nation in resources."

Carmouche said the decision would apply to all 42 cases in which he is lead attorney, and should result in early trial dates.

"All parties agreed that this decision would apply to all cases. We can get to trial

in eight months or less," he said.

However, a spokesperson for several of the oil and gas companies could not say whether they would appeal the decision to the U.S. Supreme Court, or that they would agree to apply it to the other cases.

Jason Harbison, on behalf of the legal teams representing BP America, Chevron, ConocoPhillips, Exxon

Mobil and Shell, said the companies are disappointed by the appellate decision.

"The allegations in this case, like the other similar parish lawsuits against oil and gas companies, challenge oil production practices going back for decades, including World War II, a unique period in the relationship between the federal government and the oil and

gas industry," Harbison said. "The companies continue to believe that these lawsuits implicate distinctive federal interests and deserve to be heard in a federal forum and are considering their options for further review," Harbison said. This is the fourth time that this first wetlands damage suit has been ordered returned to the Plaquemines court by federal judges.

A 43rd lawsuit, filed on behalf of Orleans Parish, also was removed to federal court and could eventually be returned to state court.

The lawsuits were originally filed in state courts in Plaquemines, Jefferson, St. Bernard, St. John the Baptist, Vermilion and Cameron parishes between 2012 and 2017. The suits challenge the failure of the oil companies to comply with the State and Local Coastal Resources Management Act, a 1980 state law. Each suit contained language specifying that it was not challenging the companies with violation of any federal laws. The parishes cited damage to wetlands stemming from the building of service canals, disposal of hazardous waste and saltwater, and other operations. □

Associated Press

Failing nursing homes to face tougher penalties

By **AMANDA SEITZ**

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The worst-of-the-worst nursing homes will face tougher penalties if conditions don't improve at their facilities, the Biden administration announced Friday.

The intensified scrutiny on some nursing homes, where more than a million people are housed, comes nearly two years after COVID-19 exposed subpar care and extreme staffing shortages that had long festered in the facilities. Nursing home residents have been significantly more likely to die from COVID-19; as of February, more than 200,000

nursing home staffers or residents had died from the virus.

President Joe Biden had promised during his State of the Union address in February to overhaul the nation's nursing home system but some of those initiatives have yet to be implemented fully.

The new guidelines announced Friday will apply to less than 0.5% of the nation's nursing homes. The facilities are already designated as a "special focus facility" because of a previous violation and are on a watchlist of sorts that requires the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare to

monitor them more regularly.

Starting Friday, those nursing homes will lose federal funding if they receive more than one dangerous violation rule-breaking that put residents at risk for harm. They will also be monitored for a minimum of three years. CMS will also consider staffing levels at the nursing homes when adding facilities to its watchlist. Currently, 88 nursing homes are on the list.

"Let us be clear: We are cracking down on enforcement of our nation's poorest-performing nursing homes," said Health and Human Services Secretary



President Joe Biden calls on a reporter for a question after speaking about deficit reduction in the Roosevelt Room at the White House in Washington, Friday, Oct. 21, 2022.

Associated Press

Xavier Becerra.

The agency is studying staffing ratios at nursing homes, with the aim of implementing requirements. The study is expected to be completed next year.

The administration also an-

nounced \$80 million worth of grants that will be given to health care organizations, trade groups or labor unions to train and hire nursing staff. Organizations have until Jan. 6 to apply for the money. □

Guilty plea due in Michigan school shooting that killed 4

By ED WHITE

Associated Press

DETROIT (AP) — A teenager accused of killing four fellow students and injuring more at a Michigan high school is expected to plead guilty to murder next week, authorities said Friday.

Ethan Crumbley had created images of violence during a classroom assignment last November but was not sent home from Oxford High School in southeastern Michigan. He pulled out a gun a few hours later and committed a mass shooting.

Authorities have pinned some responsibility on Crumbley's parents, portraying them as a dysfunctional pair who ignored their son's mental health needs and happily provided a gun as a gift just days before the attack. They also face charges.

Crumbley, 16, is due in court Monday.

"We can confirm that the shooter is expected to plead guilty to all 24 charges, including terrorism, and the prosecutor has notified



This booking photo released by the Oakland County, Mich., Sheriff's Office shows Ethan Crumbley, 15, who is charged as an adult with murder and terrorism for a shooting that killed four fellow students and injured more at Oxford High School in Oxford, Mich.

Associated Press

the victims," said David Williams, chief assistant prosecutor in Oakland County. A message seeking comment was left for the boy's lawyers.

Crumbley was 15 when the shooting occurred at Oxford High, roughly 30 miles (50 kilometers) north of Detroit. His parents had been summoned to school that day to discuss the teen's ominous writings. A teacher had found a drawing with a gun pointing at the words, "The thoughts won't stop. Help me." There was an image of a bullet with the message: "Blood everywhere."

James and Jennifer Crumbley declined to take Ethan home but were told to get him into counseling within 48 hours, according to investigators. A day earlier, a teacher saw Ethan searching for ammunition on his phone. The school contacted his mother, Jennifer Crumbley, who then told her son in a text message: "Lol. I'm not mad at you. You have to learn not to get caught," the prosecutor's office said.

Ethan Crumbley was charged as an adult with one count of terrorism causing death, four counts of first-degree murder, seven counts of attempted murder and 12 counts related to use of a gun. A first-degree murder conviction typically brings an

automatic life prison sentence in Michigan. But teenagers are entitled to a hearing where their lawyer can argue for a shorter term and an opportunity for parole.

Separately, James and Jennifer Crumbley are facing involuntary manslaughter charges a rare case of prosecutors trying to make parents accountable for a school shooting. They are accused of making a gun accessible to Ethan and neglecting his need for mental health care.

"Put simply, they created an environment in which their son's violent tendencies flourished. They were aware their son was troubled, and then they bought him a gun," prosecutors said in a court filing.

The Crumbleys said they were unaware of Ethan's plan. They also dispute that the gun was easy to get at home.

Madysyn Baldwin, Tate Myre, Hana St. Juliana and Justin Shilling were killed, while six students and a teacher were injured. □

Judge tosses challenge to Florida's 'Don't Say Gay' bill

By MIKE SCHNEIDER

Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — For the second time in more than a month, a lawsuit challenging Florida's so-called "don't say gay" legislation restricting teaching on gender identity and sexual orientation in schools has been dismissed by a federal judge.

U.S. District Judge Wendy Berger in Orlando on Thursday dismissed a lawsuit brought by LGBTQ students, parents and their families as well as several civil rights groups and refused their request for a preliminary injunction to stop the law from being implemented. The judge gave the plaintiffs until Nov. 3 to file an amended lawsuit if they desired.

The lawsuit in Orlando named as defendants several central Florida school

boards charged with implementing the law, which bans lessons on sexual orientation and gender identity in kindergarten through third grade as well as material that is not deemed age-appropriate. The lawsuit claimed the law had violated the plaintiffs' constitutional rights by chilling their ability to talk about their LGBTQ families in school settings. The judge disagreed.

"Plaintiffs have not directed this Court to any fact that would lead a reasonable person to believe that the law prohibits students from discussing their families and vacations at school or even on a school assignment, or that it would prohibit a parent from attending a school function in a 'pride' t-shirt or generally discussing their family structure in front of other people,"

wrote Berger, a nominee of former President Donald Trump.

In response to concerns by the parents of a nonbinary middle school student who were plaintiffs and worried the law would encourage more bullying, the judge expressed sympathy. But Berger added, "it is simply a fact of life that many middle school students will face the criticism and harsh judgment of their peers."

"Indeed, middle school children bully and belittle their classmates for a whole host of reasons, all of which are unacceptable, and many of which have nothing to do with a classmate's gender identity," the judge wrote.

Earlier this month, a federal judge in Tallahassee dismissed a similar challenge to the law. In both lawsuits, the judges questioned the

legal standing of the plaintiffs, saying they had failed to specifically identify how the law had harmed them. A report released in August by the Human Rights Campaign, one of the nation's largest LGBTQ advocacy groups, and the Center

for Countering Digital Hate said that hateful references to gays, lesbians and other LGBTQ people surged online after Florida's Republican-dominated legislature passed the bill. The law was championed by Gov. Ron DeSantis, a Republican. □



Florida's Republican Gov. Ron DeSantis addresses attendees during the Turning Point USA Student Action Summit on July 22, 2022, in Tampa, Fla.

Associated Press

EU leaders weigh future of China ties as rivalry mounts

By LORNE COOK and GEIR MOULSON

Associated Press

BRUSSELS (AP) — European Union leaders on Friday weighed the future of their increasingly testy relations with China as President Xi Jinping was expected to be reappointed leader at the Communist Party congress taking place this week.

During more than three hours of talks in Brussels, the 27 leaders of the world's biggest trading bloc discussed ways to reduce their dependence on China for tech equipment and the raw minerals used to make items such as microchips, batteries and solar panels. "The goal was to have a veritable strategic exchange" ahead of a meeting with members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in December, European Council President Charles Michel said.

Michel, who chaired Friday's EU summit, said the leaders agreed on the need to be firm with Beijing in their defense of democracy and fundamental freedoms. But they also agreed to demand a better balance of economic



From left, Romania's President Klaus Werner Ioannis, Germany's Chancellor Olaf Scholz, France's President Emmanuel Macron, European Council President Charles Michel, Spain's Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez and European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen during a round table meeting at an EU summit in Brussels, Friday, Oct. 21, 2022.

Associated Press

relations between equal partners while working with China on global issues like climate change and the coronavirus pandemic. European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen noted the EU was "witnessing quite an acceleration of trends and tensions" with China. She said the week-long Communist Party congress has shown that Xi will continue to reinforce China's "very assertive" and

"self-reliant" tendencies. "Clearly, China is continuing a mission to establish its dominance in east Asia and its influence globally," von der Leyen said. "The Chinese system is fundamentally different from ours, and we are aware of the nature of the rivalry." The head of the EU's executive branch underlined that the bloc has learned from Russia's war on Ukraine how difficult it can be to rely on

one country for important imports like oil and gas. "Obviously, we have to be very vigilant when it comes to dependencies," von der Leyen said. She said the EU must boost its own production capacities and seek out "reliable, trustworthy suppliers." French President Emmanuel Macron said Europe made a "historical" mistake during the global financial crisis of 2007-2008 by push-

ing some member states to sell their infrastructure. Greece was forced to do so with its biggest port to meet the demands of its European creditors, and Chinese shipping group COSCO bought the facility. Macron said Europeans were "naïve" to treat the bloc like an "open supermarket" because of public finance issues.

He said it's important for Europe's strategic autonomy "to define, in a respectful, transparent and clear way, and I insist on these three points with regard to China, our rules of the game." Macron added: "When it comes to critical technologies, where our security and defense are at stake, we want to have elements of sovereignty."

German Chancellor Olaf Scholz said he plans to make a long-planned first visit to China as his country's leader before a Group of 20 summit that begins in mid-November.

"I think it's important to tend and develop our international relations properly," said Scholz, who unlike his two immediate predecessors made his first Asian trip to Japan rather than China. □

Video: Israeli guard, settler join forces in West Bank clash

By TIA GOLDENBERG

Associated Press

TEL AVIV, Israel (AP) — An Israeli rights group released video on Friday that appears to show an Israeli

security guard and a Jewish settler joining forces during a clash with Palestinian farmers in the occupied West Bank, with the settler throwing a stun grenade

after the guard apparently shows him where to aim. The video, provided by the rights group Yesh Din, was filmed during a confrontation between masked Jewish settlers and Palestinians in the northern West Bank, an area which has seen unrest in recent months over Israeli military raids and Palestinian shooting attacks. Critics have long accused the Israeli military and the defense establishment of having uncomfortably tight ties with settlers. The Defense Ministry pays the salaries of settlement guards and many top commanders live in the settlements. Soldiers are often seen standing by as settlers attack Palestinians or their property. This week, settlers

rampaging in the northern West Bank pepper sprayed several soldiers trying to disperse them. "We are used to seeing soldiers doing nothing to stop settlers but in recent years we're seeing active cooperation between them," said Ziv Stahl, Yesh Din's executive director. In the video, a settler is seen walking down a hilltop and handing what appears to be two stun grenades to the security guard. The guard then points in the direction of what appears to be the Palestinians, who are offscreen, and the settler lobs the stun grenade that way. The guard again points and the settler throws the second stun grenade.

Security guards man settlements throughout the West Bank and are meant to act as a standby until soldiers or police arrive. Other videos provided by Yesh Din from the clash also show soldiers standing by as masked settlers throw stones. The videos do not show the Palestinians. The Israeli military said the incident and the guard's behavior were under review. The military said both Palestinians and settlers were throwing stones. It said the person in uniform seen in the video is not a soldier but rather a security guard whose salary is paid by the Israeli Defense Ministry and who is nominated by a regional military officer. □



In this image made from video, a settler, front, appears to throw a stun grenade in front of an Israeli security guard near Burin, West Bank, Friday, Oct. 21, 2022.

Associated Press

Pakistan taken off watch list for terror funding, laundering

By **MUNIR AHMED**

Associated Press

ISLAMABAD (AP) — An international watchdog said Friday it is removing Pakistan from its so-called "gray list" of countries that do not take full measures to combat money laundering and terrorism financing, a move that was quickly welcomed by the country's prime minister and other government officials.

The announcement was made by Raja Kumar, the president of the Financial Action Task Force, at a news conference in Paris. The FATF welcomed "Pakistan's significant progress in improving" its anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing policies. Pakistan had been on FATF's gray list since 2018. Being on the Paris-based watchdog's gray list can scare away investors and creditors, hurting exports, output and consumption. It also can make global banks wary of doing business with a country.

Friday's announcement means Pakistan will no longer be subject to increased monitoring by the FATF.

It comes after a FATF mission to Pakistan last month,



A flag with the logo of the Financial Action Task Force, FATF, waves in the wind next to the German national flag during a meeting of the task force at the Congress Center in Berlin, Germany, Friday, June 17, 2022.

and months after the global watchdog said it believed Pakistan mostly complied with the organization's demands by acting against those linked to money laundering and terror financing. In Islamabad, Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif took to Twitter to welcome the decision, saying that his country's removal from the list was "vindication of our de-

termined and sustained efforts over the years. I would like to congratulate our civil & military leadership as well as all institutions whose hard work led to today's success."

In New Delhi, foreign ministry spokesman Arindam Bagchi said Islamabad, pressured by the global watchdog, has taken some steps against well-known

terrorists including those accused of the 2008 Mumbai terror attacks that killed more than 160 people.

Pakistan's Hafiz Saeed, whose charity Jamaat-ud-Dawa is believed to be a front for Lashker-e-Taiba militant group accused of the Mumbai attacks, was designated a terrorist by the U.S. Justice Department and has a \$10 million

bounty on his head. He is now serving multiple prison terms in Pakistan after being convicted in several cases last year.

Relations between Pakistan and India were strained after the attack on India's financial hub. The rival South Asian powers have fought three wars since gaining independence from Britain in 1947.

"Pakistan must continue to take credible, verifiable, irreversible and sustained action and terrorist financing emanating from territories under its control," Bagchi said.

The "gray list" is composed of countries with a high risk of money laundering and terrorism financing but which have formally committed to working with the task force to make changes.

The FATF is made up of 37 member countries, including the United States, and two regional groups, the Gulf Cooperation Council and the European Commission.

Currently, only Iran and North Korea are fully black-listed and refuse to cooperate with the FATF. □

Associated Press

Sri Lankan lawmakers vote to trim presidential powers

By **BHARATHA MALLA-WARACHI**

Associated Press

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP) — Sri Lankan lawmakers overwhelmingly approved a constitutional amendment on Friday that trims the powers of the president, a key demand of protesters who are seeking political reforms and solutions to the country's economic crisis. Debate on the bill began on Thursday, and on Friday, 179 lawmakers from the governing coalition and opposition voted in favor of the motion and only one voted against it, ensuring the two-thirds majority in the 225-member house required to make the amendment law.

The amendment transfers some presidential powers,

including the appointment of officials, to a constitutional council comprising lawmakers and respected non-politicians. The council will recommend candidates to the president for

appointment. The council's recommendation is required for presidential appointments of senior judges, attorney generals, central bank governors, police, election

commissioners, and bribery and corruption investigators. The prime minister will recommend Cabinet appointments, and the president will not be allowed to hold any Cabinet positions except defense.

The government says the changes will help ensure the independence of the judiciary and public service.

Sri Lanka is facing an unprecedented economic crisis and public protests demanding reforms to ensure transparency and accountability.

The Indian Ocean nation has been facing severe shortages of essential imports such as fuel and medicine. The crisis set off massive demonstrations that led to the resignations of

the president, prime minister and key Cabinet ministers several months ago.

Current President Ranil Wickremesinghe, who succeeded ousted President Gotabaya Rajapaksa in July, promised to limit the powers of the presidency and strengthen Parliament. The amendment reinstates many democratic reforms made in 2015 which were reversed by Rajapaksa when he was elected in 2019 and concentrated power in the presidency. The protesters blame Rajapaksa and his powerful family for years of mismanagement and corruption. Many remain skeptical of Wickremesinghe and accuse him of trying to protect the former leader and his relatives. □



A woman sells mangos at a market place in Colombo, Sri Lanka, Friday, Oct. 21, 2022.

Associated Press

Aruba Airport The future is bright



The World Routes event is the highlight of the year that provides a unique platform for route development professionals from both airports and airlines to discuss, develop and plan route strategy.

This platform presents unlimited business and networking opportunities by bringing together the world's leading airlines, airports, and tourism authorities, providing as such an efficient cost and time saving platform for organizations wishing to develop and expand their route networks. Aruba Airport was present to present the airport to more than 100 airlines and organizations.

Aruba Airport Authority N.V. (AAA) attended the 27th World Routes Development Forum Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada recently where AAA was represented by Mrs. Barbara Brown, Chief Com-

mercial Officer and Mrs. Jo-Anne Arends, Air Service Development Manager.

The conference also provided the opportunity to personally meet with several of the suppliers of Aruba Airport which support and form part of the various Air Service Development activities at the airport. The opportunities for building the current networks and presenting Aruba Airport to possible new business partners were numerous. The aviation sector is growing fast and



will continue to grow. Aruba Airport had a total of 22 meetings spread over three concentrated business days of which 10 include new op-

portunities for AUA airlift out of Latin America, Canada, Europe and the US for the year 2023 and beyond.

The AAA team met with existing airline partners such as British Airways, KLM, American Airlines, JetBlue, Delta Air lines, United, Avianca and Copa. Airlines are predominantly interested in launching or ramping up leisure routes, creating new exciting opportunities for Aruba e.g. Equair, Breeze, Azul and Flair Airlines.

"A more nimble and collaborative approach towards working with the airlines has born its fruits," states AUA Air Service Development Manager Jo-Anne Meaux-Arends, noting the techniques to capture these opportunities entail exploring underlying competitive challenges that small airports face in retaining or enhancing commercial air service. "New data collection techniques in conjunction with historical global demand and industry capacity data is used to predict demand in a manner that works effectively even when prior year results become less representative."

"Aruba Airport's future looks bright and sunny," states AUA Chief Commercial Officer Barbara Brown. "We will continue to strive for the creation of pleasant and authentic airport experiences for our airlines, our travelers, and our airport community in general, whilst doing this in an as sustainable manner as possible." □



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Re-Opening TGI Friday at Paseo Herencia

PALM BEACH - Yesterday afternoon took place the re-opening of the TGI Friday restaurant in the Paseo Herencia Mall.

After starting renovations in August 2022 finally they

could have their re-opening in their new and more modern location. It's on the second floor in the entrance of Paseo Herencia, can't miss it.

For this special occasion

TGI Friday invited the 2 gold bowling medalists Kamilah and Abigail Dammers to cut the official ribbon for the re-opening. Kamilah and Abigail recently won gold medals in the Asuncion 2022 South America Games that was held in Paraguay. So it was a pleasure for TGI Friday to have them cut the ribbon.

Restaurant Manager Chela de Lannoy welcomed all the guests and proceeded to cheers with their iconic blue drink "Electric Lemonade". Everyone was pleased with the new location and details that were incorporated in the new location.

Operations of the restaurant remains the same as usual, they open at 9am for breakfast that goes till 12pm, lunch starts at 12 pm and goes till dinner at 11pm from Sunday to Thursday and on Fridays and Saturdays till 12am.

We want to invite everyone to take a look at TGI Friday's new location where you can enjoy your visit with a spectacular view.

You can take the stairs or make use of the elevator. □





NORWEGIAN PRIMA



Ministerio di Turismo y Salud Publico



Arriving today

Norwegian Prima arrives in Aruba for the first time

ORANJESTAD – “After a month of preparations, we are finally so far”, Marc Figaroa, director of Aruba Ports Authority NV, announced with pride. This is not the first cruise arrive to our port for the first time this year, and it will also not be the last one. “APA together with ATA and ministry of Tourism are working hard to continue attracting new cruise ships for our ports, in an effort to develop the industry and incentivize our economy.”

According to established plans that are fixed in an itinerary, early this morning the Norwegian Prima

will arrive in Aruba. It will dock in our quay until the late hours of the afternoon, when it will raise its anchor to continue in the direction of its next port of call on its itinerary.

“It is the newest cruise in the family of Norwegian Cruise Lines. It has been sailing for almost two months and we already managed to get it to visit Aruba. We expect it once more in the month of November”, Figaroa said.

Ongoing recovery

If everything carries on the way it has been going, Aruba Ports Authority predicts that a level of almost

80 percent of recovery will be achieved when comparing this year to 2019, which was the last normal year for the cruise industry and a record year for APA. The percentage is lower than the aviation industry, but it needs to be reminded that cruise industry took a lot longer before restarting. And contrary to aviation, the pandemic affected the cruise industry two times consecutively, both at the beginning of Covid that paralyzed the entire industry for almost 16 months, and after the impact of Omicron also, which once again caused many cancellations between the end of December 2021 until February 2022.

Even so, the Caribbean region recovered better than other regions and in that, Aruba continues to be one of the favorite ports.

New cruise for Aruba

The Norwegian Prima cruise ship carries a maximum of 3215 passengers. The cruise ship has 20 floors, 1646 rooms, 16 lifts and is 299 meters long. It's called the “Prima Class” of Norwegian Cruise Line and it is the first in six cruises that was ordered in February 2017 in Italy, the first to be completed and began sailing last August.

Cruise Tourism is growing

Aruba Ports Authority NV is proud of announcing that this year, in the context of their recovery strategy, they have attracted one of the biggest cruise ships in the world. Allure of the Seas, of Royal Caribbean International arrived in Aruba last May. The cruise ship, which cost 1.2 billion dollars to make, carries no less than 6400 passengers and 2200 crew members.

When it was built in 2009, it was the biggest cruise ship in the world, 362 meters long. In Aruba, we had to adapt our quay in order to accommodate it. It arrives in Aruba every other week and brings many passengers on board who greatly

contribute to our economy. **Still more for this year**

The arrival of new cruise ships for the first time to Aruba will continue in the following weeks, before the end of the year. Next week there will be another cruise ship entering our quay for the first time. This is the Carnival Spirit, of the Carnival Cruise Line. The cruise ship is 21 years old, and it cost \$375 million to build and it carries 2124 passengers on board.

But Aruba Ports Authority NV is proud to announce that in the month of November and December there will be more first calls in the quay, among others, we will be receiving Celebrity Beyond, Harmony of the Seas, Norwegian Encore and Azamara Onward.

It's worth adding that Celebrity Beyond began sailing last April, so it's the newest cruise joining the Celebrity Cruises fleet. It is in the Edge-Class category and has a carrying capacity of 3937 passengers.

Harmony of the Seas is in the Oasis Class category of Royal Caribbean International which will substitute the Allure of the Seas from the middle of November. Norwegian Encore is in the Breakaway Plus-class ship of Norwegian Cruise Lines which will also visit Aruba for the first time. Encore is a relatively new cruise which began sailing in 2019 with capacity for 4903 passengers. Azamara Onward is a 23 year old cruise, it carries 826 passengers, it's 191 meters long and it's in the R-Class category. It was renovated this year to begin operating for Azamara Cruises since last May.

Next year, cruise tourism will continue growing

According to projections, tied to negotiations made and internal preparations at the quay, in January 2023 Aruba will welcome, for the first time, the Ritz Carlton cruise – Evrima. It is a luxury cruise of barely 149 suites, accommodat-

ing 298 passengers. It was a few weeks ago when the cruise began sailing, as the first of three acquired by the Marriott International company.

In the month of June, once more APA will celebrate the arrival for the first time of the Mardi Gras cruise ship. It is operated by Carnival Cruise Line, it cost 1.1 billion dollars to build, was launched at the end of July 2021, measures 340 meters in length and has a carrying capacity for 6500 passengers and 2000 crew members. Mardi Gras belongs to the Excellence Class category and it is the biggest cruise in the Carnival Cruise Line family. Mardi Gras operates on LNG.

Projections based on established agreements with cruise lines for the next year indicate that, barring any changes, Aruba Ports Authority NV will at least reach the amount of cruise ships and passengers as in 2019, which was their best year. “At least” is highlighted because the company is in advanced deliberations with various lines which will probably crystallize next year, now that there is more appetite to sail on a cruise again.

Aruba remains a favored port in the Caribbean, for our crystalline beaches, level of service and safety!

About Aruba Ports Authority

Aruba Ports Authority was founded in 1981. The company belongs 100 percent to the Government of Aruba and has 75 workers in direct service. Together it manages the two quays in Aruba, the cruise terminal in Oranjestad as well as the cargo one in Barcadera, where they have an operation agreement with ASTEC. Each year, about 310 cruise ships arrive in Oranjestad and another 905 cargo ships arrive in Barcadera – without counting small ships and launch services (before the pandemic). The company is stable under the management of Marc Figaroa. □



Today Is Going To Be A Good Day

Here's why: Aruba Today collected some things to do BEYOND the beach. Yes, we know. Aruba, located 15 miles north of Venezuela in the warm waters of the southern Caribbean, is home to beautiful white-sand beaches, 82-degree days, and thus ideal for the perfect beach day.

But we are also blessed with some of the warmest people in the world and our island is 19.6 miles long and 6 miles across, with a total area of 70 square miles. Bit more to discover than the white stretch on the coastline we say. Let's mention some of these hidden gems.

Nature Calls

The Arikok National park is worth the ride. We love the hikes that are guided by the park's rangers whose job is to maintain trails and protect natural resources. The flora and fauna are beautiful and the historical sites tell you about the island's indigenous roots. The guided tours are even free of charge. If you are not up to walking, you can drive through the park, one way or another this park is a great place to spend an entire day. Cruising through the landscape you end up at some of the most stunning beaches like Dos Playa or Daimara Beach. In Total the park consists of 7907 acres protected nature with a richness of animals living in it. The Aruban whiptail lizard (cododo), Aruban cat eye snake (santanero) and endangered rattle snake (cascabel) are just some of them, you can also admire these close in the park's Visitors' Center.

For more information, visit the website www.arubanationalpark.org

Philip's Animal Garden

To stay with the animals, let's hop to an amazing place. Something different to do, an experience that is to be enjoyed by people of all ages. Welcome to Philip's Animal Garden. We are not talking about a zoo here, this is actually a sanctuary for all types of creatures, from horses to peacocks, kangaroos to turtles, monkeys, goats, and many, many more different species. The place was founded in 2009 and it is



the only organization rescuing and rehabilitating exotic animals in Aruba, which has resulted in an amazing collection of these animals. They provide a suitable living environment for all the rescued animals. Up until now the owner, Philip, has built this shelter with his own efforts; building all the cages from scratch, designing all structures and welding them with his own bare hands. His goal is to upgrade the facilities to a world-class animal shelter with veterinary care and round-the-clock staffs. With the input from the Aruban community and visitors they provide the best care for these animals. Please check out their website for more information: www.philipsanimalgarden.com.

The Lighthouse

No, you would not think of this as a hidden gem. The California Lighthouse is actually one of the most known highlights in Aruba and many repeated guests most probably took the ride uphill already. But, there is a significant change to

this tower. Since September 2016 you can climb the top. In 2015 Stichting Monumentenfonds started the restoration of the California Lighthouse. The project finished in September 2016 and the Lighthouse is now open for visitors to enjoy the beautiful view from the top. The construction of the California Lighthouse started in 1915. The name 'California' came from a vessel of the West India Company and Pacific Steamship Co. called 'California' that shipwrecked in the area in 1891. Therefore they came up with the idea of building a lighthouse that could indicate the island's eastern tip to ships with its light. www.arubalighthouse.com will give you more information.

Kayak in the Mangroves

Mangel Halto at Savaneta is definitely a place not to miss out on. The beautiful beach with the natural mangroves is simply a beauty, but if you are into a more active way to enjoy the nature: take a kayak. While you are doing some workout -as it might get a little windy and rough-, you will see the island from a different perspective. You can even make a stop to do some snorkeling at the reef. It's fun, it's healthy and for sure something else. There are several companies that offer kayak tours, we had good experience with The Shack Kayak Tours Aruba, find them on Facebook. □



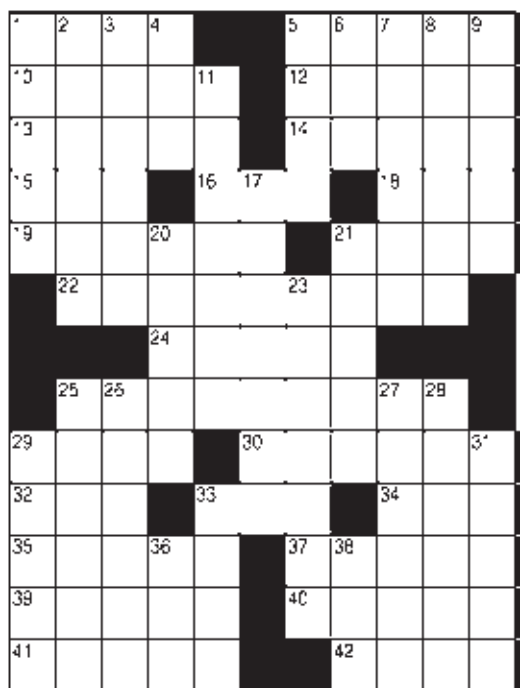
CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

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SCOTT MACES
PAPER ECLAT
IRENE AROSE
CON AMNESIA
ELI DAD ILK
SENT PENNY
GAB RAG
AGNES GNAW
FLA NAB UMA
RUMMAGE MOI
EMBER REBUS
ANIME EVENT
KITES TARTS

Yesterday's answer



10-22

AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's. X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

10-22

CRYPTOQUOTE

GTZGNT KQZ WQEVW WQTH
MVZK TOTSHWQEVU CST C
USTCW CVVZHCVBT WZ
WQZYT ZD RY KQZ JZ.

— EYCCB CYEPZO

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: AUTUMN IS A SECOND SPRING WHEN EVERY LEAF IS A FLOWER. — ALBERT CAMUS

Is inflation affecting travel points and miles?

By SAM KEMMIS of Nerd-Wallet

After years of unusually low prices on airfare and vacation rentals during the pandemic, travel prices have taken off in 2022. And while travel price inflation has cooled with slowing demand and falling fuel prices this fall, it continues to affect travelers' plans and budgets.

So with travel prices still well above their pre-pandemic levels, what does that mean for travelers' hotel points and airline miles? Rewards programs regularly increase award prices, which are the number of points or miles needed to book a hotel night or flight. That practice devalues these currencies over time and renders customers' collection of points and miles less useful. Yet, interestingly, the opposite effect seems to be happening this year.

REWARDS ARE WORTH MORE THIS YEAR

NerdWallet refreshed its annual analysis of points and miles programs and found something unexpected



This Aug. 11, 2019 file photo shows credit cards in New Orleans. Associated Press

in a sea of bad inflation news: Many rewards programs' points have become more valuable this year compared with the previous year. American Airlines' miles increased in value, from 1.2 cents per mile in 2021 to 1.5 cents in 2022. United Airlines' miles jumped from 1 cent per mile to 1.2 cents per mile. In fact, almost every domestic airline's miles either increased in value or stayed the same, year over year. This bucks the conventional wisdom among points and miles enthusiasts, who expect to see those values

drop over time. "Miles and points aren't really a hedge against inflation, as the various programs and loyalty currencies are always devaluing based on business and economic trends," said Tiffany Funk by email. Funk co-founded Point.me, a service that helps customers redeem their travel rewards. "But points can be a buffer against inflationary pressures in the short term." Put simply: Cash prices went way up this year and award prices (e.g., the number of miles needed to book a flight) also went up, but not as much. □

IRS raises contribution limits for retirement savings plans



A sign is displayed outside the Internal Revenue Service building May 4, 2021, in Washington.

Associated Press

By ALEX VEIGA
AP Business Writer

Americans will be allowed to contribute more of their money to 401(k) and similar retirement saving plans next year. The IRS said Friday that the maximum contribution that an individual can make in 2023 to a 401(k), 403(b) and most 457 plans will be \$22,500. That's up from \$20,500 this year. People aged 50 and over, which have the option to make additional "catch-up" contributions to 401(k) and similar plans, will be able to contribute up to \$7,500 next year, up from \$6,500 this year. That means a 401(k) saver who is 50 or older can contribute a maximum of \$30,000 to their retirement plan in 2023. □

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24/7

Social media stocks slip amid Musk, Snap news

By **MICHELLE CHAPMAN**
AP Business Writer

Shares of social media companies are tumbling before the market open on Friday after a slew of news in the sector that concerned investors, including a report that Elon Musk may cut almost 75% of Twitter's workforce and Snap's muted fourth-quarter outlook.

Musk has told prospective investors in his Twitter purchase that he plans to cut nearly 75% of Twitter's employee base of 7,500 workers, leaving the company with a skeleton crew, according to a Thursday report by The Washington Post.

Wedbush's Dan Ives said in a client note that Twitter Inc. is due for some job cuts, but that the reported figure may not be the best approach.

"Musk cannot cut his way to growth with Twitter and a number in the 75% zip code would be way too aggressive in our opinion out of the gates," he wrote. A Delaware judge has given Musk and Twitter until Oct. 28 to work out details of the proposed \$44 billion deal. Otherwise, there will be a trial in November.

Shares of Twitter dropped more than 4% in premarket trading.

Elsewhere in the sector, Snap Inc.' stock slid more than 28% after the company behind Snapchat gave a lackluster forecast for the fourth quarter and its third-quarter revenue missed Wall Street's view.

Snap reported third-quarter revenue of \$1.13 billion, below the \$1.15 billion that analysts polled by Zacks Investment Research expected.

While the Santa Monica, California-based company said in a letter to investors that it wasn't giving a formal fourth-quarter outlook, it did say that it's highly likely that year-over-year revenue growth will slow during the period. Snap said its internal forecasts are for year-over-year revenue growth to be about flat.

A JPMorgan analyst note



The Twitter logo is seen on a mobile phone, Oct. 14, 2022, in Boston.

Associated Press

said that Snap is experiencing weaker demand due to macro pressures, platform policy changes and competition.

"We appreciate management's efforts to control what they can cutting costs & doubling down on more resilient performance-based ads but trends remain choppy, and the macro backdrop is likely even tougher into 2023," the note said.

Adding to the mix are concerns about the way social media platforms are being used as the mid-term elections near. While platforms

like Twitter, TikTok, Facebook and YouTube say they've expanded their work to detect and stop harmful claims that could suppress the vote or even lead to violent confrontations, a review of some of the sites shows they're still playing catchup with 2020, when then-President Donald Trump's lies about the election he lost to Joe Biden helped fuel an insurrection at the U.S. Capitol. Shares of Meta Platforms Inc., parent company of Facebook, declined 4.4% before the opening bell.

The flurry of news weighed

on others in the sector as well, including Google parent Alphabet Inc., off 2%, and Pinterest Inc., down 8%. □



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Brady not thinking about retirement, so time to speculate

By **ROB MAADDI**

AP Pro Football Writer

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — Tom Brady says retirement isn't in his future, so let the 2023 speculation begin.

Brady's comment Thursday doesn't mean he's coming back for a 24th season but anything is possible for the 45-year-old, seven-time Super Bowl champion.

Right now, Brady is focused on trying to get the Tampa Bay Buccaneers (3-3) on the winning track after three losses in the last four games. Brady and the Bucs haven't found a rhythm yet and he's getting more attention for tossing tablets, chewing out teammates and attending a wedding. But Brady isn't quitting on the Bucs midseason — not that anyone thought he would. "I love the sport and I love the teammates," Brady said. "I want to go do a great job for this team like I always have. No retirement in my future."

If Brady — who retired this past spring before changing his mind — decides to keep playing, he'll be a free agent after the season.

Here are eight potential teams for No. 12 next year: **BUCCANEERS:** Brady returned to Tampa Bay after a 40-day retirement because of "unfinished business" after winning a Super Bowl in his first season with



Tampa Bay Buccaneers quarterback Tom Brady (12) gives signals at the line of scrimmage during the first half of an NFL football game against the Pittsburgh Steelers in Pittsburgh, Sunday, Oct. 16, 2022.

Associated Press

the Buccaneers and falling short in the divisional round last season. So far, it's been a struggle because his offensive line has been depleted by injuries and Ali Marpet's retirement, receivers have been hurt and Rob Gronkowski retired. But it's way too soon to write off the Buccaneers. They're still the team to beat in the NFC South and should improve as players start returning from injuries. In 2020, the Buccaneers were 7-5 before running the table and winning the Super Bowl. Brady will want to play for a contender and Tampa Bay would seem to give him that opportunity, plus he'd have familiarity.

"I think everything's

unique," Brady said. "Every year's different. Every football season is a little bit different. There's different challenges. We've just got to work hard. We're certainly not a finished product. We've got to work hard to make the improvements we have to make, and that's what going out to practice is all about, and having great communication with your teammates and trying to get things headed in a better direction."

49ERS: Returning to the Bay Area and closing out his career playing for the team he grew up rooting for would be a storybook ending for Brady. Jimmy Garoppolo will be a free

agent and inexperienced Trey Lance will be returning from injury and would certainly benefit learning from Brady for a year. The 49ers just added running back Christian McCaffrey and should be a contender, so they're the top option outside Tampa.

DOLPHINS: Owner Stephen Ross was fined and suspended for tampering with Brady while he was with New England and Tampa. Miami also had discussions with Brady about becoming a partner in the team. Before sustaining a concussion, Dolphins quarterback Tua Tagovailoa was excellent during a 3-0 start. The Dolphins might not have the biggest need but

they clearly wanted Brady enough to violate NFL rules already.

GIANTS: Rookie coach Brian Daboll has New York off to a 5-1 start and quarterback Daniel Jones has played well. But the former first-round pick will become a free agent after the season and the Giants may be in a position where they're a QB away from contention. Enter Brady. He couldn't beat them in the Super Bowl twice, so why not join them?

SAINTS: They wanted Deshaun Watson before resigning Jameis Winston and adding Andy Dalton. The Saints have weapons at wide receiver but they have too many overall needs.

TITANS: Brady is close to Titans coach Mike Vrabel. Ryan Tannehill is owed \$36.6 million in 2023 but Tennessee could save \$17.8 million against the cap by trading or cutting him before next June 1. If Derrick Henry stays healthy, the Titans are attractive.

COMMANDERS: They would save \$26 million by releasing Carson Wentz. Brady may be the only person who could save owner Dan Snyder and fill the seats in Washington.

PANTHERS: They'll need a QB but even the GOAT can't turn Carolina into a championship team. □



Simona Halep, of Romania, returns a shot to Daria Snigur, of Ukraine, during the first round of the U.S. Open tennis championships, Monday, Aug. 29, 2022, in New York.

Associated Press

By **HOWARD FENDRICH**

AP Tennis Writer

Two-time Grand Slam champion Simona Halep was provisionally suspended

ed by the International Tennis Integrity Agency after failing a drug test during the U.S. Open in August. The ITIA announced the

Simona Halep, 2-time major champ, gets provisional drug ban

punishment Friday for Halep, a former No. 1 player who is currently No. 9 in the WTA rankings. She won Wimbledon in 2019, beating 23-time major champion Serena Williams in the final, and the French Open in 2018.

In a social media post, Halep called the news of her positive test "the biggest shock of my life," adding: "Facing such an unfair situation, I feel completely confused and betrayed." "I will fight until the end to prove that I never knowingly took any prohibited substance," Halep wrote,

"and I have faith that sooner or later, the truth will come out."

Halep, a 31-year-old from Romania, announced in September she was taking the rest of this season off after having nose surgery to improve her breathing. She considered retiring early this year after a series of injuries, but then said she felt rejuvenated after teaming up in April with coach Patrick Mouratoglou, who used to work with Williams.

Seeded No. 7 at the U.S. Open, Halep lost in the first round to Daria Snigur

of Ukraine 6-2, 0-6, 6-4 on Aug. 30. It was the first tour-level win of Snigur's career. Spokesmen for the U.S. Tennis Association and Mouratoglou declined comment.

Halep said she was told her test showed "an extremely low quantity."

According to the EU's medicines agency, which approved Roxadustat last year, it stimulates the body to produce more of the natural hormone erythropoietin, or EPO, which has long been a doping product favored by cyclists and distance runners. □

Dusty Baker takes another run at that elusive title

By PAUL NEWBERRY
AP Sports Columnist

Johnnie B. Baker Jr. he answers to Dusty has built a lifetime of memories by bearing witness to some of baseball's significant moments.

It might be more appropriate to call him Forrest Gump.

When Hank Aaron hit his 715th homer, Baker was kneeling in the on-deck circle.

When Steve Bartman reached over a Wrigley Field railing in an ill-fated pursuit of that foul ball, Baker watched in stoic disbelief from the dugout.

He was there, too, for epic pennant races and champagne-soaked celebrations from coast to coast.

Yet one thing and it's a biggie has eluded baseball's Renaissance man.

A World Series championship as a manager.

At 73, Baker may be staring at his last and probably best chance to fill in that one glaring omission on his resume.

He's six wins away with a stellar Houston Astros squad that chalked up 106 victories during the regu-



Houston Astros manager Dusty Baker Jr. watches introductions ahead of Game 1 of baseball's American League Championship Series between the Houston Astros and the New York Yankees, Wednesday, Oct. 19, 2022, in Houston.

Associated Press

lar season, more than any team in a nearly three-decade-long managing career that should carry Baker to Cooperstown.

Dusty puts a philosophic spin on his quest.

Like a fine bottle of wine another subject he knows a thing or two about one can't uncork the bottle until the time is just right.

"You can't rush it before it gets here, because it ain't here yet," he said. "So you've just got to put yourself in a position to do it."

His players made it clear that giving Baker one of the few things he doesn't have is one of their most potent motivators.

"We love going out there every single day and com-

peting for him," third baseman Alex Bregman said. "He loves this team. He loves winning. He loves the game of baseball. And a hundred percent we want to win for him."

Backing up his words with his bat, Bregman hit a homer that accounted for all the runs in Houston's 3-2 victory over the New York Yankees in Game 2 of the AL Championship Series, which now heads to the Bronx with the Astros up two games to none.

Six wins to go for Baker.

Six wins to go.

Stop right there, he'll tell you. With age comes wisdom, and he's learned that ever single day is to be cherished. Six more wins might as well be another lifetime away. For a guy with far more days behind him than in front of him, there's no need to hasten the journey.

"I'm just taking it one game at a time and just living my life," Baker explained. "You can't live too far in the future or else you're not really enjoying today."

Baker got a glimpse of what he was in for as a manager in his very first season at the helm.

The year was 1993, and Baker took over a San Francisco Giants team that went 72-90 the previous season but had signed the game's best player,

Barry Bonds. With a not-yet-bulked-up Bonds leading the way, the Giants won 103 games. They also happened to play in the same division as the Atlanta Braves, who won 104. In the last season before the wild card, the Giants sat at home with the game's second-best record.

And so it's gone for Baker ever since, plenty of regular-season joy mixed with staggering postseason heartbreak.

He's managed five teams. All of them have won division titles and reached the playoffs, making Baker the only manager to accomplish that feat with so many clubs. He's just the ninth manager to win pennants in both leagues. He also ranks ninth on the career wins list with 2,093 (plus another 45 in the playoffs).

But here's the thing: No manager has won so many games without capturing a World Series title. And it's hard to find one who's endured so much October misery. In 2002, Baker's Giants were up 3-2 on the Angels in the World Series. And they were chilling the champagne with a 5-0 lead in Game 6 going to the bottom of the seventh. It all fell apart. Baker made some questionable pitching moves and the Angels mounted the largest comeback ever by a Series team in an elimination game.

The following night, the Angels wrapped up the championship in Game 7. The very next year, after Baker was forced out in San Francisco and landed with the Cubs, he guided that long-downtrodden franchise team within five outs of its first World Series since 1945. Alas, Bartman got in the way, the Cubs collapsed and it was the Marlins who went on to capture the Series title that should've been Baker's.

It would be more of the same in Cincinnati and Washington, the next two stops on Baker's managerial odyssey. More playoff appearances that came up short, often in what seemed the cruelest possible ways. □

Stephen Curry launches graphic novel series on sports stars

NEW YORK (AP) — Stephen Curry's latest move is one for the books.

The NBA superstar is launching a graphic novel series, "Stephen Curry Presents!: Sports Superhe-

roes," in partnership with Penguin Workshop. The first of four planned installments will focus on Curry's career and is scheduled for fall 2024.

The series will be created

through the publishing arm of Unanimous Media, the company founded by Curry and Erick Peyton. Last month, Penguin released Curry's picture book "I Have a Superpower."

"We hope that when kids pick up the books in this series to read all about their favorite athletes, it not only instills excitement and grows their love for reading, but also inspires them to reach for the stars and accomplish their dreams," Curry and Peyton said in a statement released Friday by Penguin Workshop, a Penguin Random House division.

The new series will be written by Rich Korson and Josh Bycel, with illustrations by Damion Scott. □



NBA basketball player Stephen Curry, of the Golden State Warriors, arrives at the ESPY Awards in Los Angeles on July 20, 2022.

Associated Press

Weekly SPECIALS

<p>WAS \$31.94</p>  <p>\$27.42 Per KG</p> <p>BBQ/Grill Kebab Beef Tenderloin</p>	<p>WAS \$3.76</p>  <p>\$2.85 Each</p> <p>Blueberries 6oz</p>	<p>WAS \$6.83</p>  <p>\$5.14 Each</p> <p>Dr.Oetker Big American Assorted 435gr</p>	<p>WAS \$8.05</p>  <p>\$5.71 Each</p> <p>EE Old Fashioned Oats whole Grain 42oz</p>
<p>WAS \$18.57</p>  <p>\$15.42 Per KG</p> <p>Entrecoto Brasil</p>	<p>WAS \$9.71</p>  <p>\$7.99 Per KG</p> <p>Chicken Gyros</p>	<p>WAS \$3.99</p>  <p>\$3.42 Per Bag</p> <p>Potatoes Idaho 5lbs</p>	<p>WAS \$1.42</p>  <p>\$2.85 Each</p> <p>Pineapples</p>
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<p>WAS \$7.82</p>  <p>\$6.68 Each</p> <p>Panera Assorted Soup 16oz</p>	<p>WAS \$14.28</p>  <p>\$11.42 Each</p> <p>Swiffer Sweeper Wet Cloth Mop Refill 24ct</p>	<p>WAS \$1.51</p>  <p>\$1.23 100 GR</p> <p>American Yellow Cheese</p>	
<p>WAS \$3.88</p>  <p>\$3.13 Each</p> <p>Gwonn Frites 2500gr</p>			

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